



Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item

Agenda Item No.

5

City Manager's Approval

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
From: Richard Ramirez, Interim City Manager
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator, Auburn Recreation District
Date: February 24, 2014
Subject: Support of the Maidu Dr. Bike Park Location

The Issue

Shall the City of Auburn adopt a resolution of intent, pending environmental reviews, supporting the Auburn Bike Park location off of Maidu Dr.?

Conclusion and Recommendation

Adopt a resolution of intent, pending environmental reviews, supporting the Auburn Bike Park location off of Maidu Drive.

Background

The Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD) has been working with a group of volunteer community members in an effort to develop an Auburn Bike Park. This Bike Park would include the following features:

- Pump Track: A Pump Track is a “flattened” BMX track, featuring rolling bumps, turns, straights, and berms. A Pump Track is typically built of dirt and is designed for riders of all ages and skills.
- Skills Course: A Skills Course would feature various skill elements, interconnected with trails. A Skills Course helps riders practice/hone their skills such as riding over larger jumps and banked turns.

The location of the Bike Park was considered in many different locations. 17 different sites were reviewed in this process. After this review process, it was determined that the location off of Maidu Dr., directly below the Canyon View Community Center (471 Maidu Dr.) was the preferred location. This property is owned by the United States Bureau of Reclamation and managed by ARD via a 25 year Management Agreement signed in 2000. The ARD Board of Directors unanimously approved this location at the December 19, 2013 Board of Director's meeting.

Members of the local and regional equestrian community have raised concerns about the location of the Maidu Dr. Bike Park in relation to trails and equestrian use in the area. Specifically, the equestrians have shared concerns about impacts to the Pioneer Express Trail. ARD staff further researched the location of the Pioneer Express Trail and discovered the following:

- In the Auburn area, the historic Pioneer Express Trail followed close to the American River. The trail has been re-routed over the years, most significantly when USBR began work on the Auburn Dam, and as recently as 2008 near Folsom Lake.
- The Pioneer Express Trail does not go through the Bike Park location based on our conversations with USBR and Auburn State Recreation Area officials. This is also consistent with trail maps provided by USBR via the State of California, which show that the Pioneer Express Trail stops at Maidu Dr.

To help mitigate for the perceived loss of trail access raised by the equestrians, the Bike Park is being designed to add a new, multi-use trail along the lower end of Maidu Drive property (above Pleasant Avenue). That trail will enable user groups to access other trails (officially and not-officially designated) in the canyon area.

ARD staff, volunteers and the Bike Park designer are currently working on a design for the Bike Park. This design and subsequent CEQA/NEPA approval will be folded into a larger Operational and Development Plan between ARD and USBR.

Attachments:

Resolution

Auburn Bike Park Maidu Dr. location (aerial map)

Trail information – Pioneer Express Trail

Letter of Support from Auburn Endurance Capital Committee

RESOLUTION NO. 14-

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO SUPPORT THE AUBURN BIKE PARK PENDING
ENVIROMENTAL REVIEW

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUBURN DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

WHEREAS: The need and demand for a Bike Park in Auburn, featuring a pump track and bicycle skills course is well established; and

WHEREAS: The Auburn Area Recreation and Park District, working with a group of dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers endeavors to open a Bike Park in Auburn; and

WHEREAS: The Auburn Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors unanimously approved the Maidu Dr. location for the Auburn Bike Park on December 19, 2013; and

WHEREAS: The City of Auburn recognizes the economic, community and health values of a Bike Park in Auburn;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Auburn supports in concept the Auburn Bike Park and the Auburn Area Recreation and Park District in their choice of location at the Maidu Drive site pending environmental review.

DATED: February 24, 2014

Bridget Powers, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stephanie L. Snyder, City Clerk

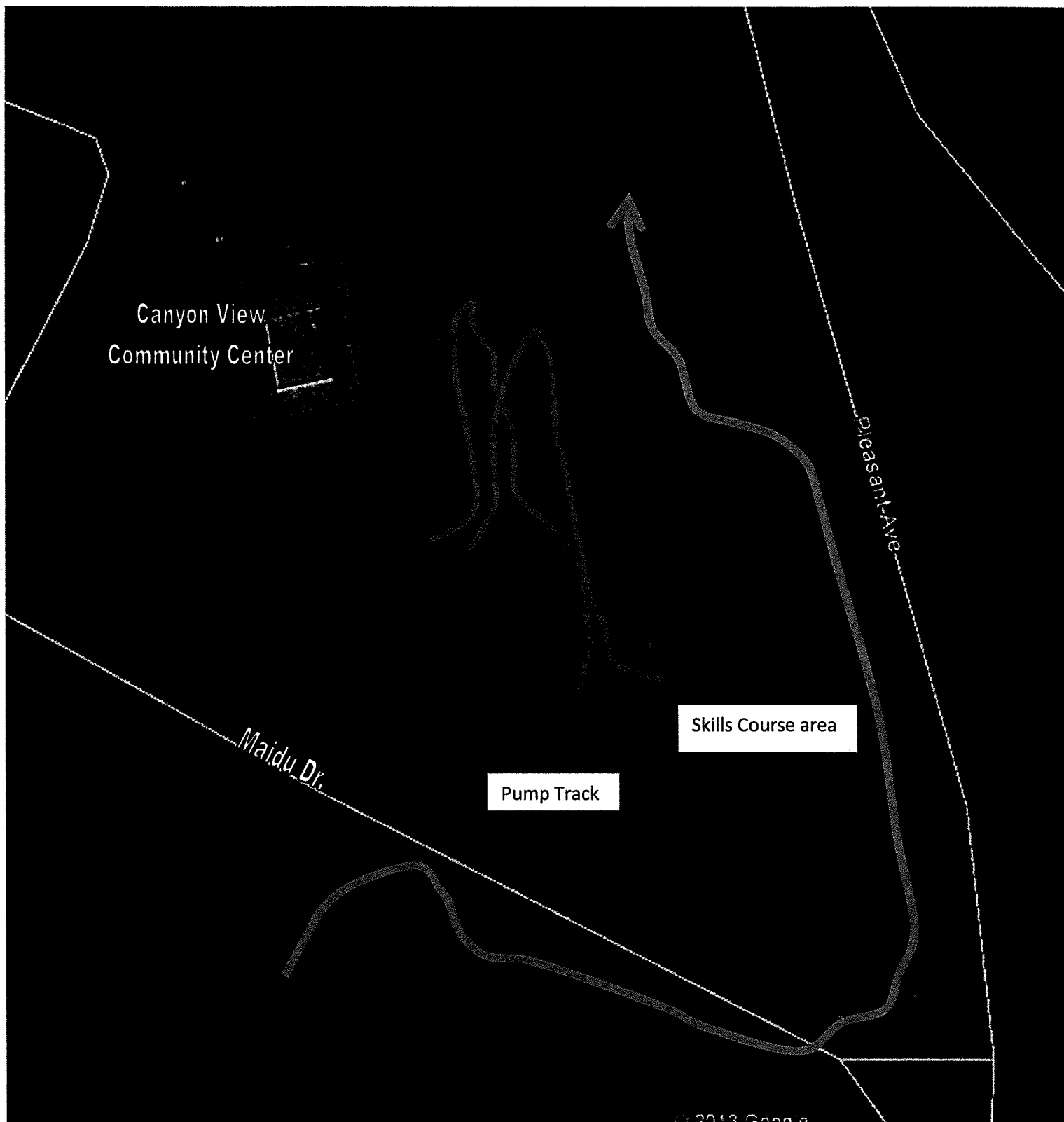
I, Stephanie L. Snyder, City Clerk of the City of Auburn, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly passed at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Auburn held on the 24th day of February 2014 by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Stephanie L. Snyder, City Clerk



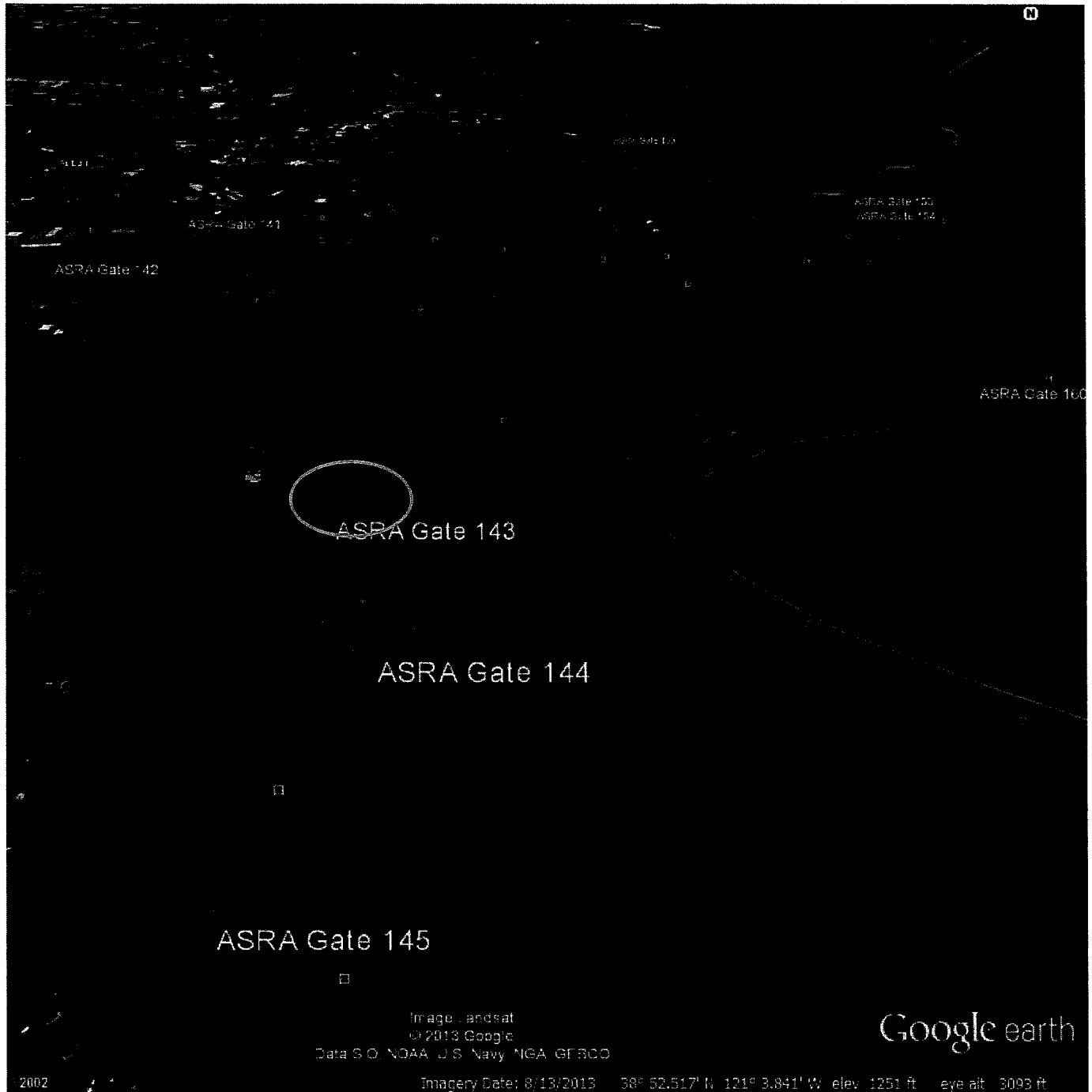
Conceptual Bike Park plan

Solid blue line = New, multi-use trail

Solid pink lines = Bike park access trails

Note: all lines and boundaries are conceptual and approximated.

American Discovery Trail and Pioneer Express Trail/Western States Trail
 .kmz files from California State Parks, mapped in Google Earth.



Key

Yellow circle = Bike Park site (approximated)

Green line = Pioneer Express Trail

Purple line = American Discover Trail (approximated by way points)

Note: The American Discovery Trail was designated by the First Lady and Secretary of Transportation in 2000 as part of the Millennium Trails initiative, a public-private partnership recognizing a system of trails and roads. The trail was nominated for further study but not incorporated into the National Trails System or otherwise designated by Congress, and thus has no formal delineation or administration.



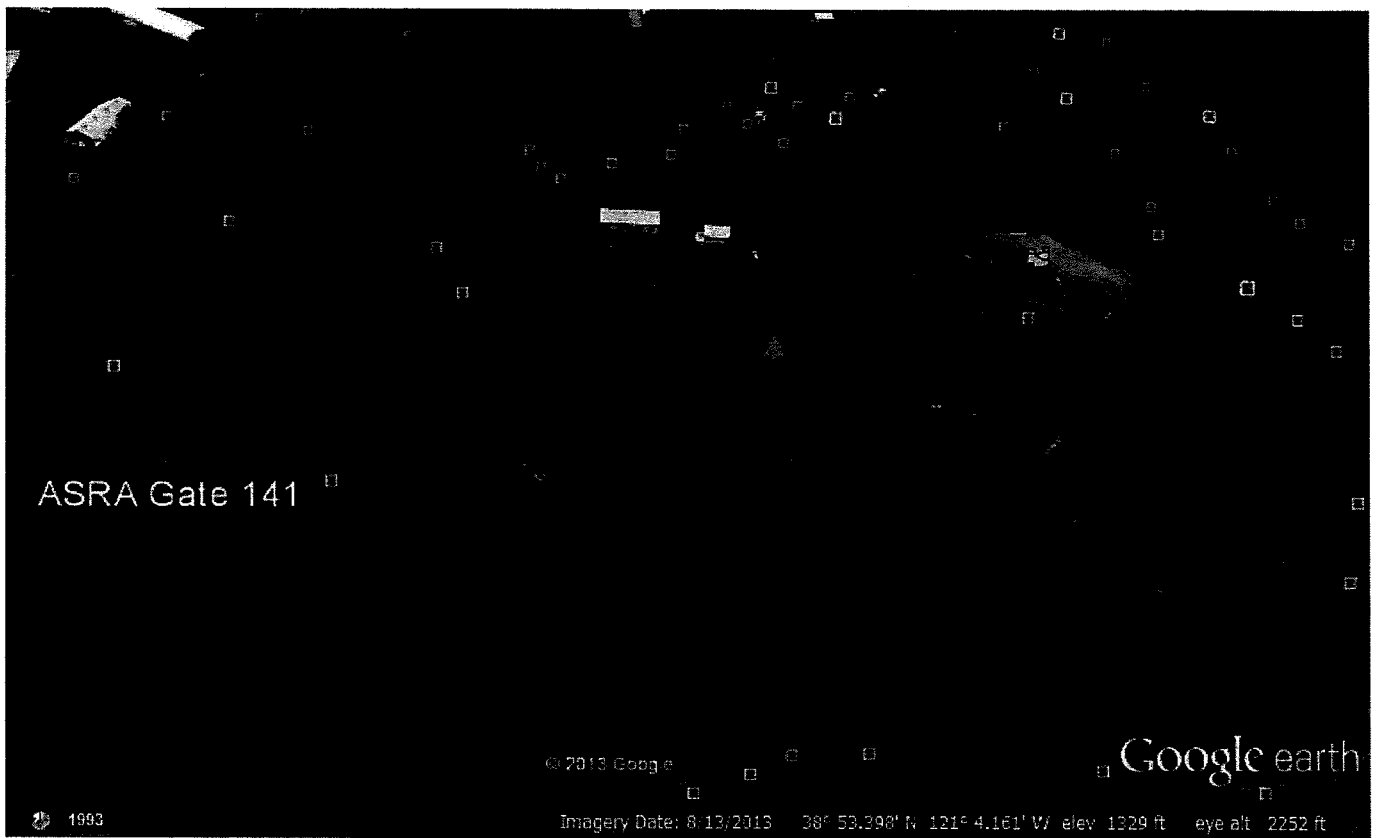
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Source:

Alexandra Stehl
California State Parks
Facilities Management Division
Statewide Trails Manager
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Sacramento, CA 95814
916-324-0322
Alexandra.Stehl@parks.ca.gov



February 11, 2014

Auburn Area Recreation and Park District Board of Directors
c/o Kahl Muscott, District Administrator
Auburn Area Recreation and Parks District
471 Maidu Drive
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Directors and Mr. Muscott:

The Auburn Endurance Capital Committee members unanimously support the efforts of the Auburn Area Recreation and Parks District (ARD) to build the Auburn Bike Park, and we believe the bike park will be a great addition to our community!

The ECC feels that the Auburn Bike Park is another step in the right direction of one of our objectives, to promote a healthier lifestyle. The bike park will create a place for families to spend time together while enjoying the canyon, getting some exercise and getting fresh air.

We believe the bike park will be a great asset to Auburn and most importantly, a great benefit to our children, youth and families. Auburn youth need safe places to ride and practice their bicycling skills. A bike park will encourage youth to get outside, exercise and socialize. The bike park will create life-long friendships and memories for our youth and will serve as a gathering place for our community.

We thank the ARD for working over the last year with the community to vet and identify a location for the bike park. The ARD has selected a site that is bike-accessible and will encourage kids to ride their bikes to and from the bike park. And, the park will be available free-of-charge so that more children and youth can use the park. The bike park itself will have a skills-area to help youth increase their bike handling skills and build their self-confidence, all while having fun. The bike park is also a great compliment to our bicycle-oriented community, which hosts both mountain and road biking enthusiasts with its year-round bicycle-riding weather.

We thank you for your efforts to build an Auburn Bike Park!

Sincerely,

City of Auburn's Endurance Capital Committee

Robert Miller, Chair
Cynci Calvin
Colleen Conley
Lisa Kodl
John Mackey
Jim Northey
Harvey Roper